

SYKES' REGULARS REPORTER

1ST BATTALION 20TH INFANTRY

Volume 2, No. 33

12 LIE. VIETNAM

13 December, 1970

BATTALION WELCOMES

NEW COMMANDER

In Change of Command Ceremonies conducted on 14 December, 1970, LTC Gordon F. Lynch relinquished his command of the 1st Battalion 20th Infantry to LTC Thomas W. Brogan. The former commander stated, "It has been a pleasure commanding the best fighting Battalion in the U.S. Army.

LTC Brogan, in his second tour here in Vietnam, comes to the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry from the 1st Cavalry where he was G-1 (head of Personnel section). During his first tour in Vietnam, LTC Brogan served as Team Commander for the 10TH Special Forces, Regimental Advisor for the 5th ARVN Infantry Division, and Battalion Commander of 1/48th Infantry, 3rd Armored Division and also as G-1 for the 3rd Armored Division.

LTC Brogan graduated from Michigan State University in 1953 as a 2LT. In chronological order, here are the dates of his promotions:

1LT	January 1955
CPT	August 1959
MAJ	June 1963
LTC	March 1967

LTC Brogan calls Leavenworth, Kansas his home and it is here where his wife, Ellee, and his two children, Lisa and Tim, now reside.

"I am real proud and privileged to be associated with the 1st Battalion 20th Infantry, it has a tremendous record. We will continue on and maintain this record, and continue to take care of the soldier better than any other battalion in Vietnam."

"WELCOME" from 'Sykes' Regulars' REPORTER

CHARLIE COMPANY FINDS

BOOBY TRAP FACTORY

While engaged in a sweeping operation near the Gaza Strip recently, Second platoon of Charlie company uncovered what was believed to be a VC booby trap factory.

The platoon had been split into three sweeping elements, all sweeping in different directions, when the third squad, led by pointman Joe Kauschinger (Lancaster, N.Y.), discovered a villa that was fenced off with barbed wire. After a thorough inspection of the area, a tree with some type of warning written on it was found.

"We were afraid to go in at first, we thought it might be a mine field or a heavily booby trapped area," explained Kauschinger. However, with extreme caution, Kauschinger, Sgt. Vincent Magis (Roselle N.J.) and Lt James Roberts (Plant City, Fla.) started into the villa. After moving a short distance, an observation post was discovered. "It was a lean to type structure facing towards the open fields, a very good OP," stated Magis. "It was probably used to watch for G.I.'s."

While moving on into the villa, a booby trap was found on the trail. The company commander, Cpt. James J. Donovan (South Orange, N.J.) was notified and he came to the area of the discovery and evaluated the situation. The booby trap was then disarmed and Cpt. Donovan and his men started searching down the trails leading into the villa.

"We found an area that was heavily
(Cont. Pg 4)

CHARLIE COMPANY

MORE ON BACK TO WORLD LEAVES

In a newsletter from 23rd Infantry Division Headquarters, appeared the following information concerning the 14 day COMUS leave:

Dates and spaces allotted to this command for charter flights are increasing daily. At present, the Division has received a total of 94 spaces on 10 flights for December and there is a possibility for more.

If you are interested in this leave, to avoid confusion and insure speedy processing, you should follow these steps.

Immediately submit your request, no matter when you plan to take it. This request should include: 1. Name, 2. Unit, 3. Rank, 4. Social Security Number, 5. Desired destination (Oakland, Chicago, or New York for the United Service Club flights), 6. Date of birth, 7. Home leave address and telephone number, and 8. Desired date of departure.

For the month of December only, money to cover the total cost of the round trip ticket must accompany the request.

Major Subordinate Commands will designate an individual who will consolidate and hand carry requests and money (MFC) to the Special Services R&R Office. If request should outnumber allocations, personnel with the longest time in country will be chosen.

The United Service Clubs (USC) flights, which are via Pan American Airlines, have flights scheduled for the month of December which are already sold out except for the few remaining allocations for this Division. There is a possibility that additional flights may be scheduled. The USC, at this time, has yet to release its' schedules for later months.

Prices for the USC round trip flights are as follows:

OAKLAND...	\$369.00
Chicago...	\$442.00
NEW YORK...	\$479.00

Civilian clothing may be worn from Saigon to the final destination, however, reduced prices for onward flights will only be offered to personnel in military uniform.

The United Services Organization (USO) flights, which are via World Airways, has flights scheduled for 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 28, and 31 December. Also dates for the month of January include 3, 5, 10, 12, 16, 18, 23, 25, 29, and 31. There have been additional flights scheduled through April, however, the dates are unavailable at this time.

The above mentioned flights will go ONLY to Oakland, with the round trip fare being \$350.00. For these flights, 28th December and subsequent flights, money for the full fare and the leave request must arrive at the Special Services office no later than 17 days prior to the flight date. Earlier flight requests should have been in prior to 9, 10, and 11 December.

On these flights, the individual is required to wear the military uniform. Also, refunds will be given up to the date of the flight and the tickets are in no way transferable.

Individuals are reminded that in addition to charter flights, you may also purchase tickets from commercial airlines. Round trip or one way return trip tickets may be purchased. You should be warned that tickets are not available to COMUS and with the extreme shortages of space available, an individual could spend several days awaiting transportation to the United States.

To date, the above information is the most recent that has been received. If you are interested in taking this leave, contact your First Sergeant or Company Commander and make your request as soon as possible.

ALPHA COMPANY HAS HONOR GRADUATE IN COMBAT LEADERSHIP COURSE

A soldier from the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry's Alpha company has just returned from the 23rd Infantry Division's Combat Leadership Course in Chu Lai where he distinguished himself by placing third over all in the course.

The soldier, SP4 Randall L. Amos (Orange, Va.), applied himself in various courses emphasizing techniques in patrolling, artillery adjustment, Vietnamese customs and relations, demolition, mines and booby traps, and instruction procedures. In the instruction procedures class, each candidate is required to act as the principal instructor in one 10 minute block of instruction and one 20 minute block of instruction on a subject related to the course. The individual can choose his own subject. Of the possible 1,000 points, SP4 Amos scored a very respectable 916.

In graduation ceremonies conducted on 10 December, 1970, SP4 Amos was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious achievement by Brigadier General Theodore Mataxis, the Asst. 23rd Infantry Division Commander in charge of maneuvers. In addition to the medal, Amos was presented with a plaque which cited him as an Honor Graduate of the Combat Leadership Course.

For his fruitful efforts, Amos will receive a three day in-country R&R at China Beach in Da Nang.

The "Sykes's Regulars" REPORTER wishes to offer its sincere congratulations to this man for his outstanding performance.



LOOK ACE..... FORGET THE
CANDY AND NUTS THIS YEAR, HOW
ABOUT A HOP TO HONG KONG !!

1970 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

To all members of the United States Army I extend my best wishes for Christmas and New Years.

During this Holy Season the hope of peace on earth is foremost in the minds of all men of goodwill. Peace is especially meaningful to you, the American soldier, who is sacrificing so much now, as your forefathers before you, toward attaining that cherished goal.

The unselfish devotion of everyone in the Army family—military and civilian—is recognized, admired and appreciated. May every happiness be yours and your families' during this holiday season.

STANLEY R. RESOR
SECRETARY of the ARMY

ONLY SIX MORE SHOPPING DAYS
UNTIL CHRISTMAS

BOOBY TRAP VICINITY (Cont. from Pg. 1)

over grown and there were a lot of torn up buildings around," reported Kauschinger. It was in this area where most of their discoveries were made.

1Lt. Donald Sabulis (Warrmouth, Mass) who was accompanying Opt. Hanson, discovered an M-1 carbine hidden under some bushes. This find prompted a thorough search of the area which yielded numerous small booby traps, some smoke grenade fuses, trip wire, sealing wax, and various sized cans filled with bits of shrapnel. Also a large church type structure was discovered. Found around the outside of this structure were several small booby traps, more cans of various types of shrapnel, fuses, and other trinkets of booby traps. A large pile of bricks yielded three large cans of potrum and six smaller ones, all hidden beneath it.

"When we went inside the building, we found dried blood and several used and discarded bandages," stated Kauschinger. A short while later the body of a VC, believed to have been dead from two to three days, was found hidden under banana tree leaves about 30 meters from the building. Also found inside the building were hidden booby traps, a few firing devices, wax, more cans, and about 100 rounds of carbine ammunition.

After the search of the area had been completed, all of the explosives found were blown in place along with other items found in the area.

Charlie company, by making this very important discovery, has again helped to hinder the VC in their efforts to immobilize the G.I. with the constant threat of the booby trap.



HIGH FLYING NVA ESCAPES

ALPHA COMPANY'S SECOND PLATOON

While moving from their previous night's NVA to their patrol base for the day, Alpha company's second platoon encountered one suspected NVA evading from a small ville to their front.

Pointman Butch Bochette (Cordova, S.C.) saw the insurgent fleeing after he apparently heard or saw the G.I.'s coming his way. PFC Bochette shouted for the soldier to halt, but when he failed to do so he opened fire with his M-16. The insurgent, however, had succeeded in reaching a heavily overgrown area and eluded the G.I.'s.

PFC Thomas Pfaff (New Milford, NJ) explained, "Our LT (1Lt Martin Roe of Lowell, Ohio) dove a sound up to recon the area by fire with M-16's and M-79's." When the recon by fire was complete, LT Roe sent a small element in to search out the area. After a complete search, the element returned to the secured ville to report positive findings.

Then began a thorough search of the ville. Two suspected VC were detained when Bochette and PFC Anne Newton (ASH-ville, Mo) found evidence that indicated that the escaped soldier had stayed in their hooch. Included in the items found in the hooch was a small quantity of polished rice believed to be his food supply.

Taking a little more time and effort, Bochette and Newton started probing the dirt floor for possible hidden tunnels and spider holes. Their efforts paid off as it turned out.

"In the back of the hooch, in one corner, we found a large barrel buried beneath the floor," stated Newton. It was the contents of the barrel that really surprised everyone. "The barrel was completely full of MARIJUANA!" explained Bochette. "There must have been 40 or 50 pounds of the stuff."

After the marijuana was removed from the hooch and bagged, this very unusual find and the two suspected VC were extracted on a back haul chopper.

SOMEONE IN THE WORLD DOES CARE

To one group of women in the world, The American Lutheran Church Women, the fighting men in Vietnam is a very important person. This information has been brought to the attention of the Syke's Regulars REPORTER by Chaplain (CPT) Merle D. Brown of Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion 20th Infantry.

According to Chaplain Brown, in the July issue of SCOPE, The American Lutheran Church Women's magazine, there appeared an article concerning soldiers here in Vietnam who seldom receive mail or packages from home. This special message was directed at the women's organizations of the over 5,000 congregations of the American Lutheran Church, whose membership totals over two and one half millions. Help make a lonely soldier happy, show him that you care by sending packages and letters.

Included in this article was the address of The American Lutheran Church's Service to Military Personnel Commission. This commission would send, upon request, the names and addresses of the Chaplains of that denomination serving in Vietnam. Chaplain Brown's was one of those names on the mailing list.

At the present time, Chaplain Brown has in his possession a large quantity of very sincere letters from concerned people about G.I.'s who don't receive packages or letters from home. Usually following these letters were packages filled with cookies, candy, accessory packets, and other hard to get items.

These women donate their spare time willingly to the various organizations of their own church. They meet and bake the cookies and prepare the candy because they care, not because they have to. The items which make up the accessory packets, the ingredients for the cookies and candy are purchased with funds donated by other members of the congregations who also care about the American fighting man.

These people have no idea who their packages will go to, they have only one concern, that being, that their packages help make some lonely soldier just a little bit happier. Most of these packages contain cards of letters personally wishing the soldier who receives their package of "goodies" a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season, and in many cases a request for correspondence. It is a wonderful feeling when you receive such a letter from a person you have never met, but who is concerned about you and the job you are doing. Thank God for people like these.

Chaplain Brown has received such a great number of these packages, that he is distributing them to companies instead of individuals. At the present time he still possess a large stack of gayly wrapped packages and cans ready for distribution. By no means will he have any difficulty finding a recipient for these home baked cookies and candies.

Through these packages, the Ladies of The American Lutheran Church Women's organization have relayed their concern and their appreciation for the job that the soldier in Vietnam is doing. From one such organization of the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Poland, Ohio, came this message: "We hope to let our boys know, in this small way, that Christians are concerned about them and their prayers are constantly crying out for peace throughout the world."

The "Syke's Regulars" REPORTER is published bi-weekly under the supervision of the S-1, HHC, 1st Bn, 20th Inf, 11th Inf Bde, APO San Francisco 96217 as an authorized publication. Opinions expressed aren't necessarily those of DEPT of ARMY.

Battalion Commander
Adjutant
Correspondent

LTC Thomas W. Brogan
1LT Jerry L. Brown
SP4 Mark L. Cook

LOANS AVAILABLE FOR

BACK TO WORLD LEAVES

World Airways, the nation's largest charter carrier which has flown over 20 million miles for the Military Airlift Command, announced a new fare of \$350 for round trip between Vietnam and the West Coast of the United States.

Edward J. Daly, President of World Airways, announced he was "personally prepared to guarantee" loans for the full amount of the fare, through the First Western Bank and Trust Company, which has 95 branches in California. The bank may open branches in Vietnam to handle the expected business.

Under the World Airways plan, wives or parents in the United States will be able to arrange the ticket purchases and financing of the \$350 flights. While World Airways will book flights from the West Coast to the serviceman's destination, it will finance only the Vietnam-California portion of the flight. (Robert S. Horowitz--Army Times)



MORE DROPS

The "Syke's Regulars" REPORTER has recently learned of additional drops for the month of December. The drops apply to the people who leave on the following dates:

DEPOS-ETS	HOME
Feb 5-6	Dec 21
7-8	22
9	24
10	26
11	28
12-13	29
14-15	30
16-17	31

At the present time, the drops total 45 days. Here's hoping that they get bigger and keep on coming.

VC Going Hungry ?

That very well may be the case. After looking over the records, it seems that since the 1st of September, the men of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry have captured from the VC a total of 129,405 pounds of rice. Listed below are the amounts captured by each individual company:

Company A	19,525 Pounds
" B	37,120 "
" C	27,600 "
" D	43,760 "

The "Syke's Regulars REPORTER would like to say "Keep Up The Good Work."

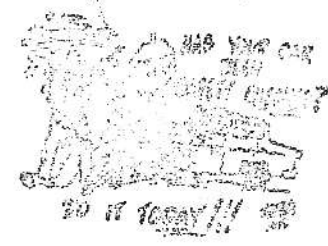


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

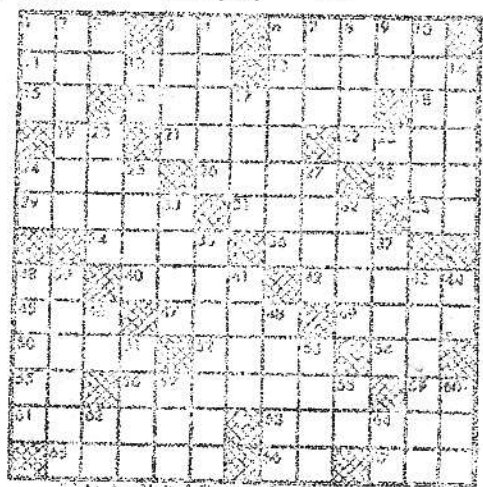
Answers on Page —

- ACROSS**
1. Neckpiece
 4. Kind of shoe
 6. Slip of leather
 11. Having pearls characteristic
 12. From slouch
 13. Compass point
 16. Parts of shoes
 18. Dim god
 19. A state (abbr.)
 21. Non-wood
 22. Herod
 24. Girl's name
 25. I like one's part
 28. Compass point
 29. Old womanish
 31. Girl's nickname
 32. Pronoun
 34. High
 35. Party
 36. Quiet
 40. Pertaining to Turkey
 45. American capitalist
 47. Turkey's capital
 48. Money
 50. Girl's name
 51. Labor
 54. River in Italy
 55. You'onic deity
 56. Bow of lathework
 59. A continent (abbr.)
 61. Female relative
 63. Four
 65. Portions of medicine
 66. Compass point
 67. Before

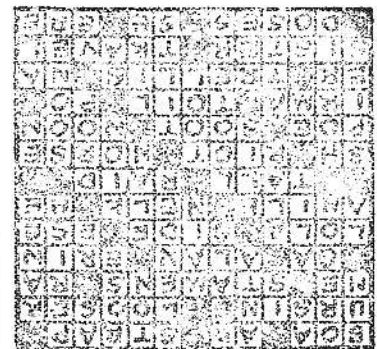
4. Plaster
5. Transactions
6. Slim
7. Measure of weight
8. Flower
9. Conjunction
10. Die
11. Exists
12. Hindu queen
17. Principal
20. Landed
21. Lots of scale
24. A state (abbr.)
25. Vastly
27. Area
30. Ancient district in Greece
32. King of beasts
35. Plunderer
37. Lat tell
38. Secret agent
39. Terrible



41. Instrument
42. Father
44. Half an acre
45. Pithy or massive
47. Indian
48. City of Siam
50. Debt of honor
51. A country (abbr.)
52. A capitalist (abbr.)
53. Language
54. Conjunction
56. Brother of Cain



- DOWN**
1. Baker's product
 2. A state
 3. Conjunction



CHRISTMAS

FOR

ME

The sun will set as it does
 Day after day,
 Darkness will fall upon and
 permeate every crevasse
 and valley through out the
 country.
 It will be just another day,
 another click to hump,
 another case of G's, and
 another day of patrolling.
 For me, the "Grunt".

We call it Vietnam;
 A land wherein I will spend
 Christmas this year.

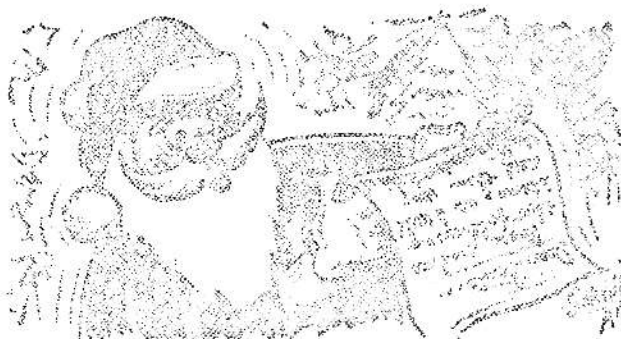
But, in my own way, Christmas
 will be mine this yuletide.
 Cards I'll receive,
 Packages I'll receive,
 And from loved ones, I'll
 receive messages of love
 And concern.

I'll be, never forgetting,
 Always remembering, that
 Christmas is special,
 It's a way of life shared
 Through out the world.

SP4 John Thomas (Mt. Eden, Ky)
 Company A 1st Bn, 20th Inf

HAPPINESS is.....
 GETTING SHORT.
 DEFS.
 ETS!





CO. J.S.P. P.O. BOX 1111, THE WOODVILLE

NO. SAN FRANCISCO 95217

TO:

